

REMARKS

The applicants elect, with traverse, the subject matter of the Examiner's Group II for further prosecution.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement are requested however as a search of all the claimed subject matter is not believed to present an undue burden.

Claims 2-9 and 11-18 have been canceled, without prejudice. Claims 19 and 20 have been amended to include the subject matter of claim 10, from which the claims previously depended. Moreover, claims 21-28 have been added, based on the subject matter of, for example, claims 11-18. No new matter has been added.

The claims have been amended to include sequence identifiers. The specification was amended in the Preliminary Amendment of February 9, 2001, to include the same. Nothing further is believed to be required in response to the Office Action of February 5, 2003, however the Examiner is requested to advise the undersigned if otherwise, and provide additional time to respond.

The Office Action of February 5, 2003, indicates that a Notice to Comply is attached to the Office Action however none was received with the Office Action. A copy of the Notice to Comply can not therefore be attached hereto, as requested in the Office Action.

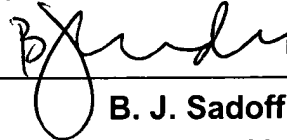
An early and favorable Action on the merits is requested.

LUCAS et al.
Serial No. **09/779,703**

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



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